

June 11, 2003

The Honorable Board of Supervisors  
County of Los Angeles  
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
500 West Temple Street  
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**REQUEST TO APPROVE THE TWO-YEAR PLAN FOR PROMOTING SAFE AND  
STABLE FAMILIES (PSSF)**

**(ALL DISTRICTS) (3-VOTES)**

**IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:**

1. Approve the attached two-year PSSF Plan required by the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) Office of Child Abuse Prevention (OCAP) in order to access federal Promoting Safe and Stable Families (PSSF) funding for the provision of family support and preservation services. The Plan will cover the two-year period beginning October 1, 2003 and ending September 30, 2005. The FY 2003-04 Proposed County Budget includes federal PSSF funding which requires no County match.
2. Delegate authority to the Director of the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) to submit the Plan to CDSS to ensure continuation of family support and preservation services.

**PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTIONS**

The purpose of the recommended actions are to assure that the County of Los Angeles continues to receive federal PSSF funds, which can then be awarded to agencies to provide community-based services in all five supervisorial districts, as well as all eight Service Planning Areas (SPAs).

Current agreements with community agencies will expire on September 30, 2003. Based on the proposed County Plan for the period of October 1, 2003 through September 30, 2005, DCFS is conducting a solicitation process for community-based agencies to continue the provision of family support and preservation services. The federal PSSF funding will finance the cost of the contracts with the community-based agencies.

#### Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

The recommended actions are consistent with the principles of the Countywide Strategic Plan Goals #1 (Service Excellence) and #5 (Children and Families' Well-Being).

Funding agencies that provide community-based services to children, adults, and families is integral to DCFS' vision that children grow up safe, physically and emotionally healthy, educated, and in permanent homes. These agencies have been successful in providing support services to the community. PSSF funding is another vehicle that the County of Los Angeles is able to utilize to further DCFS' ability to expand its resources in collaboration with community partners to provide a comprehensive child protection system.

#### **FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING**

CDSS' approval of the County Plan will enable DCFS to access PSSF funding. The CDSS has not yet provided the FY 2003-04 PSSF allocation. However, it is expected that the County of Los Angeles will receive approximately \$9,968,622 for each Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) beginning October 1, 2003 through September 30, 2005. The FY 2003-04 proposed County budget includes this federal funding. There is no net County cost since a County match is not required to access PSSF funding.

Consistent with All-County Letter (ACL) No. 02-32, the County of Los Angeles will dedicate annually no less than twenty percent (20%) of the PSSF funds to family preservation services and no less than twenty percent (20%) to family support services. In addition, a minimum of twenty percent (20%) will be spent annually on each of two additional mandated service categories: (1) time-limited family reunification, and (2) adoption promotion and support.

#### **FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS**

The Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993 created the Family Preservation and Family Support Initiative to aid states in establishing family support (preventative services) and family preservation (intensive or crisis-oriented services for children at risk

of placement) programs. As a result of this legislation, an emphasis has been placed on strengthening families and preventing out-of-home placement through the use of community-based service networks. This program was continued under the Adoption and Safe Families Act of 1997 and renamed "Promoting Safe and Stable Families" program.

On May 2, 1995, your Board approved the County of Los Angeles' Five-Year Plan for Family Preservation and Family Support Programs, which resulted in agreements with 26 community-based agencies and a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Department of Parks and Recreation.

In 1999, OCAP re-authorized the County Plan for an additional two years, beginning October 1, 2000 and ending September 30, 2002. In 2002, OCAP approved a one-year extension for family support agreements currently in place. This extension allowed DCFS sufficient time to issue a Request for Proposal for the two-year contract cycle of October 1, 2003 through September 30, 2005.

The OCAP is vested with the responsibility of ensuring that counties allocate revenue through the use of an accountable process. The OCAP also ensures program compliance and accountability to the County Plan and legislative intent.

Currently, there is no other program offered in the County of Los Angeles for strengthening and empowering families and communities that can be accessed by anyone residing in any of the supervisorial districts that is free of charge and/or requires no DCFS referral.

#### **IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)**

Promoting Safe and Stable Families program funds permit community-based agencies to provide services to families coping with the normal stresses of parenting and families who are facing serious problems and possible out-of-home placements. The availability of these services is paramount to promoting child safety, empowering families, promoting healthy parent-child relationships, and preventing child abuse and neglect. These agencies provide services unique to the needs of their community and feature family-centered culturally and linguistically sensitive services that include, but are not limited to, job training and placement; parent/caregiver education and support; teaching and demonstrating homemaking instruction; individual, family and group counseling; crisis intervention; outreach; and information and referral.

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**CONCLUSION**

Upon approval by your Board, we request that the Executive Officer-Clerk of the Board send a copy of the adopted Board letter to: Walter Chan, Assistant Division Chief, Contract Management Services, 425 Shatto Place, Room 205, Los Angeles, California

90020 and Thomas P. Fagan, Deputy County Counsel at 201 Centre Plaza Drive, Suite 1, Monterey Park, California 91754.

Respectfully submitted,

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DAVID SANDERS, PH.D.

Director

DS:EM

RRS:ic

Attachment

c: Chief Administrative Officer  
County Counsel

**REAUTHORIZATION OF THE FAMILY PRESERVATION  
AND SUPPORT PROGRAM  
TWO – YEAR PLAN FOR FEDERAL FISCAL YEARS  
2003-2005**

Date: June 11, 2003  
County: Los Angeles County  
Contact Person: Iris Courtney, Program Manager  
Organization/Agency Name: The County of Los Angeles County Department of  
Children & Family Services  
Community-Based Support Division  
Address: 425 Shatto Place, Room 150  
Los Angeles, CA 90020  
E-mail: [courti@dcfs.co.la.ca.us](mailto:courti@dcfs.co.la.ca.us)  
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**PART I: STATUS REPORT ON THE PREVIOUS TWO-YEAR PLAN  
(1999-2002)**

- *The County of Los Angeles - Promoting Safe and Stable Families vision statement.*

The Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993 created the Family Preservation and Family Support (FPFS) Initiative to aid states in establishing family support (preventative services) and family preservation (intensive or crisis-orientated services for children at risk of placement) programs. Since inception, the FPFS Programs have been instrumental in the reformation of the County of Los Angeles Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) child welfare service system. The legislation afforded the County of Los Angeles another means of placing emphasis on strengthening families and preventing interruption of family units and out-of-home placement through the use of community-based service networks. This was accomplished by:

- The establishment of local community partnerships – 26 Family Support collaboratives with over 600 partners;
- The expansion of the Family Preservation program from 28 to 40 community networks with over 400 partners; and
- The development of infrastructures that support family-centered activities and services.

These services were developed in communities in the County of Los Angeles based on their own unique characteristics, resources, histories, and strengths, which requires FPFS agencies to develop a broad range of services and activities to meet the individualized needs of a community.

The FPFS Programs continues under the Adoption and Safe Families Act of 1997 and was renamed “Promoting Safe and Stable Families” (PSSF) Program. The continuation of the PSSF act was an important catalyst for strengthening and expanding collaboratives in ways that encouraged, facilitated and leveraged improvements in family-centered systems and services.

Underlying the County of Los Angeles Plan for FPFS are the vision, goals and objectives that express the characteristics of an effective system of services. The following vision, goals and objectives, developed by the FPFS Planning Body, allow communities to further refine and define themselves to meet the needs of their families:

**The County of Los Angeles Vision Statement for the Federal Family Preservation and Support Programs**

“Family Support and Preservation in the County of Los Angeles encourages and sustains families in their effort to shape communities where children are safe, healthy, wanted and valued. Families are supported, embraced and able to access and develop social, cultural, educational, economic, spiritual and other resources necessary to fulfill their needs of mutual enrichment, nurturing of children and making a health society.”

Respect the role and responsibility for families to define and shape their own communities, providing both encouragement and strategies to sustain their effort.

- The families served by family support and preservation agencies have established autonomy in defining and shaping their own communities. Our contract networks have partnered with public and private organizations that provide specialized services to referred families, emphasizing involvement and ownership in decisions made concerning their neighborhoods.

Affirms the role and responsibility for communities to create conditions and circumstances where children are: 1) safe in their homes and schools; 2) provided physical and emotional health care services; 3) wanted as members of families and the community; and 4) valued for their contributions to the community both now and into the future.

- The County of Los Angeles Family Support and Family Preservation agencies have built an infrastructure which provides: 1) resources that promote safe homes, and schools; 2) physical and emotional health care services; 3) cohesive family unions and active community involvement; and 4) services that empowers families members to participant on task force committees, focus groups and child abuse councils that address and identifies needs and resources for their communities.

- The County of Los Angeles – Promoting Stable Families goals, objectives, and the indicators tracked for each objective identified.

### **Goals, Objectives and Indicators**

**As listed below, the goals, objectives and indicators that DCFS and the contract community-based agencies have established in the County of Los Angeles are intertwined. They reflect the needs of our children, families and community.**

#### **GOALS FOR CHILDREN**

**GOAL #1:**           ***Optimal Development.*** Facilitate the optimal physical, emotional, social, spiritual and cultural growth and development of children and families.

The County of Los Angeles established community infrastructures that have enabled children to thrive physically, emotionally, socially, spiritually and culturally.

**OBJECTIVE A:**   Provide services and resources designed to facilitate the growth and development of children and families in their own communities.

**INDICATORS:**   Measure the percentage of outreach activities services that were provided.

**OBJECTIVE B:**   Contract with agencies equipped to provide cultural and linguistic sensitive services.

**INDICATORS:**   DCFS incorporated language in all Family Support contracts to ensure agencies hire bilingual/bicultural staff. Monitor the staffing ethnicity level.

**GOAL #2:**           ***Safety.*** Assure that children are safe and secure.

**OBJECTIVE A:**   Family Preservation services are delivered to at-risk families to reduce incidences of maltreatment while children remain in the care of their parents and/or caretakers.

**INDICATOR:**      Children will be safe in the home of their families and will not be re-victimized by subsequent substantiated child abuse referrals within twelve months of case closure.

**GOAL #3:**            ***Achievement & Workforce Participation.*** Improve the achievement levels of children and ensure that youths have the skills and competencies necessary to participate in school and in the workforce.

**OBJECTIVE A:**    Provide tutorial services to help improve academic performance of children and youth.

**INDICATORS:**    Monitor enrollment in contractors tutorial programs.

                         Monitor grades of participants in tutorial programs.

#### **GOALS FOR FAMILIES IN THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES**

**GOAL #4:**            ***Safe and Nurturing Homes.***

**OBJECTIVE A:**    Enhance countywide community based In-home services to families and children that promoted child safety to limit the need for out-of-home placements.

**INDICATORS:**    Monitored recidivism of families that received Family Preservation services.

**GOAL #5:**            ***Empower Families.*** Empower families through education and training to acquire the skills, knowledge, and resources needed to increase and stabilize service systems and advocate for their children with schools, public and private agencies and other community institutions.

The existing contract that community-based agencies makes available to our clients, such as educational programs and vocational services will enhance and built upon their strengths to become self-sufficient.

**OBJECTIVE A:**    Self-Sufficient Families

**INDICATORS:**    Monitor the number of parents' participation in Greater Avenues for Independence in GAIN services (i.e., educational, technical and vocational training programs).

**OBJECTIVE B:**    Families active participation in the development of their Family Preservation Multi-disciplinary Case Planning Committee (MCPC) service plans.

**INDICATORS:**    Parents' attendance at the MCPC meetings.



Parents' signatures on the MCPC service plans.

Agencies provide monthly reports on the family progress, participation and program completion.

**GOAL #6:**        ***Family Functioning.*** Develop and enhance the functioning of families by building upon identified family strengths.

Programmatic services identifying family strengths were developed to improve and enhance family functioning.

**OBJECTIVE A:**    Parents identify and use resources in their community.

**INDICATORS:**    Each family member, ten and over, completed a Family Preservation 'Bill of Rights' which detailed their level of functioning after participating in Family Preservation services.

Measure the family's functioning via a pre and post test. Family Functioning Data has been collected from ninety percent (90%) of the Family Preservation agencies.

## **GOALS FOR COMMUNITIES**

**GOAL #7:**        ***Community Involvement.*** Involve the community in building programs suited for the unique cultural, ethnic and demographic needs of neighborhoods.

Established community partnerships with representatives and families to build on existing Networks of Services, which address unique cultural, ethnic and demographic needs of neighborhoods.

**OBJECTIVES A:**    Contracted the independent vendors to collaborate with community partners in planning, implementing, and evaluating the services rendered to the community.

**INDICATORS:**    Monitor the percentage of increased funds available to increase resources through establishing County Department MOUs and community collaboratives.

There are 400 collaborative's in the Family Preservation Community and 60 in the Family Support, all of which are accessible community based family services.

## GOALS FOR SERVICE SYSTEMS

**GOAL #8:**            ***Community-Based Family-Centered System.*** Develop collaboratives to address the three categories of PSSF: Family Support, Early Reunification and Adoption Assistance, and Promotion services, which will provide a coordinated family centered service system to support families.

**OBJECTIVES A:** Enhance the current Family Support/Family Preservation infrastructure to offer more comprehensive services to prevent child abuse/maltreatment.

**INDICATORS:** Reduce the time in foster care with out increasing re-entry.

Increase relative adoptions by ten percent (10%) countywide by collaboration with community based adoption programs (e.g., One Church One Child, Kinship providers, and Adoption Festivals). The annual family support evaluation concluded that the agencies had addressed the well being of the family.

**GOAL #9:**            ***Accessible and Affordability: High Quality Support for Families.*** Increase the accessibility, the quality, and the affordability of Family Support services, such as, childcare, parent education, youth programs, and workforce preparedness for youths, etc.

**OBJECTIVE A:** Develop partnerships with agencies that provide quality community based services, aimed at empowering families to function independent of public and or private assistance.

**INDICATORS:** Increase community collaborative by twenty-five percent (25%) by providing PSSF services in the three required categories.

## **FAMILY SUPPORT/FAMILY PRESERVATION PROGRAM**

The annual program evaluation provides details in terms of data collection, methodology used to collect each indicator, and the conclusions/outcomes reached.

## **PART II: COUNTY PLAN FOR THE NEXT TWO-YEAR PERIOD (2003-2005)**

### **A. The following provides information, categorizing the County of Los Angeles' services and programs, in accordance with the seven federal required outcomes.**

#### **➤ Family Preservation:** Reduce the recurrence of child abuse and/or neglect.

Family Preservation is defined as an integrated, comprehensive community-based approach to strengthen and preserve families who are at-risk or already experiencing problems in family functioning with the goal of assuring the physical, emotional, social, educational, cultural and spiritual development of children in a safe and nurturing environment.

Lead agencies with community-based programs contract with the County of Los Angeles and subcontract with networks of other community services providers to offer specific services for families. The County of Los Angeles currently contracts with thirty-six lead agencies that provide the core and linkage services identified below:

In-Home Outreach Visits  
Counseling  
Parenting Training  
Family Support Groups  
Therapeutic Day Treatment

In-Home Emergency Caretaker  
Child Focused Activities  
Substitute adult Role Model  
Teaching/Demonstrating Homemaker  
Transportation

The family preservation linkage services to clients include:

Child Care  
Educational Services  
Health Care Services  
Housing Services  
Mental Health Services  
Regional Center Services  
Special Education

Developmental Services  
Employment/Training Services  
Healthy Start Support services  
Income Support services  
Physical and developmental services  
Respite Services  
Substance Abuse Treatment

Effective July 2001, family preservation services were implemented throughout the County of Los Angeles. Family preservation's service population consists of open child abuse cases that are referred for prevention and intervention services aimed at stabilizing and keeping families intact. The family preservation expansion came about through additional funding from the CalWorks/Long Term Family Self-Sufficiency (LTFSS) Program.

#### **➤ 1. Reduce the incidence of child abuse and/or neglect in foster care.**

"No applicable services".

➤ **2. Increase permanency for children in foster care.**

“No applicable services”.

➤ **3. Reduce time in foster care to reunification without increasing re-entry.**

Family Preservation services have been extended to minors and their families who are receiving family reunification services from our Department. During the past funding periods the County of Los Angeles Family Preservation approach has made a considerable impact on reducing the number of children entering into foster care, as well as shortening out-of-home placements, where child abuse and neglect rates have been the greatest.

➤ **4. Reduce time in foster care to adoption.**

“No applicable services”.

➤ **5. Increase placement stability.**

“No applicable services”.

➤ **6. Reduce placement of young children in group homes or institutions.**

“No applicable services”.

**B. Planning Bodies: Describe any significant changes in the local planning bodies or the collaborative planning process.**

**Family Support/Family Preservation Program**

Efforts are being made to reconvene the Family Preservation and Support Policy Committee. However, at the present time monthly and quarterly meetings are held with community partners.

**C. Objectives: Utilizing measurable data, describe progress in achieving objectives. Note any changes in methods and tools used to gather data and measure results.**

**Family Support**

The twenty-six Federal Family Support community-based agencies evaluation process continues to be a collaborative effort as set forth since year one. The agency collaborates on the design of Family Support's evaluation instrument based on what was learned from the previous year's effort. The instrument maintains a set of common elements and, at the same time, is flexible enough to accommodate the various types of services/activities offered by the twenty-six agencies involved.

The agencies select items from any or all of the five priority areas that they were addressing. For example, if an agency offers childcare, they asked the same childcare question as any other agency offering childcare. This commonality in survey items selection provided comparable estimates of the responses of the participants across all agencies.

Evaluation data is summarized for the overall program as well as for each individual agency. Collaboratives had the opportunity to include individual questions that were unique to their community or program. This process provided an opportunity to gather information relevant to understanding the effects of individual program activities and services within their community settings. Additionally, the survey was translated into languages other than English, when appropriate.

### **Family Preservation**

We are in our third year of an ongoing evaluation process designed to evaluate the effectiveness of the Family Preservation Program by measuring family functioning. Dr. Barbara Solomon, USC School of Social Work, is the principle investigator. Since our last reporting period the Family Preservation lead agencies expanded Community Family Preservation Network from twenty-eight to forty. The Family Preservation Contract requires participation in the data collection process.

#### **D. Staffing Training: Describe staff development and training activities that support the Family Preservation and Support Program plan goals and objectives.**

### **Family Support**

Technical assistance is the primary modality in which training is provided. It includes site visits, focus groups and the quarterly Circle of Support meetings. Training has included the following:

- Collaboration - effective problem-solving with network members, training of network members, expanding partnerships;
- Evaluation - data collection and interpreting;
- Linkages - establishing relationships with other governmental organizations, universities, business community and other networks;
- Outreach - targeting specialized groups based on need assessment, effective public relation tools; and
- Needs Assessment - connecting with resources to review assessment needs with Service Planning Areas.

### **Family Preservation**

The staff of the family preservation program section provides on-site technical assistance centered on problems and goals. Areas covered include contract

management, audit issues, yearly fiscal budget expenditures, monthly budgets expenditures, case reviews, program assessments, service provisions, weekly case counts, criminal clearances, waivers for new staff, insurance issues, and training needs. Four staff members perform these responsibilities.

The Family Preservation agencies are required by contract to attend monthly Family Preservation Roundtable meetings. This forum serves many purposes, with problem solving being at the top of its agenda. Agencies meet without County presence for an hour prior to the start of the meeting to identify concerns and develop consensus.

**E. Baseline Data: Describe collected county baseline data and how it is being used for evaluation and plan modifications. Provide data analysis and interpretation in regards to outcomes and measures.**

**Family Support**

The baseline data presented in this report is from 2001. Data was collected from two samples – adults and youths. Fourteen of the collaboratives evaluated adults and youths; five evaluated adults; and nine evaluated youths.

**ADULT COMPARISON OF 2000/2001**

*Total Served* – In 1998/99, 28,918 adults were served; in 1999/00, 31,428 adults were served; in 2000/01, 41,699 adults were served.

*Ethnicity and Age* – The majority of the participants were female and Mexican with a median age of 25-44. There was a decrease of four percent (4%) in the number of older adults.

*Education* – There was a noticeable change in educational level of the participants in this year's survey compared to 1999/00. In 2001, thirty-seven percent (37%) of the respondents had a high school diploma.

*Employment* – Sixty-eight percent (68%) of the respondents were gainfully employed; thirty-one percent (31%) were full time; seventeen percent (17%) were part time; twelve percent (12%) were home based business; and eight percent (8%) were students.

*Family Makeup* – There was a median household size of four. Thirty-seven percent (37%) of adults reported that there was no adult in the home between the hours of 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

*Satisfaction* – Ninety percent (90%) reported to being very satisfied or satisfied with the program and staff.

*Needs Assessment* – The top two requested programs were job training, forty-one percent (41%) and computer classes, thirty-nine percent (39%).

*Health* – Sixty-four percent (64%) of the participants admitted to having health insurance; in 1999, forty-seven percent (47%); and in 2000, fifty-nine percent (59%).

*Financial Support* – There was a four percent (4%) decline of people receiving WIC supplements and an eight percent (8%) decline in 2001 compared to 2000.

*Outreach* – The majority of adults heard of this program through their child's school or through friends.

*Barriers* – In 2001, seventy-nine percent (79%) reported childcare as a barrier in their participation. In 1999 the number was thirty-four percent (34%), while in 2000, the number was twenty-five percent (25%).

## **YOUTH COMPARISON OF 2000/2001**

*Total Served* – In 1998/99, 151,879 youths were served; in 1999/00, 164,995 youths were served, and in 2000/01, 132,879 were served.

*Ethnicity* – Mexican/Hispanics equal the number served last year. There was a decrease in the number of Caucasian youths and an increase in the number of African American participants.

*Age* – In 2001 fewer elementary and middle school students participated. However, a larger number of high school students were involved.

*Employment* - In the area of job training, the most substantial improvement was in the area of communication skills where seventy-nine percent (79%) indicated they had improved and the smallest gains came in the area of locating job information sixty-seven percent (67%).

*Satisfaction* – Participants report satisfaction in the area of communication by forty-three percent (43%); in teamwork, thirty-six percent (36%); in school grades, thirty-four percent (34%); and in self-esteem thirty-three percent (33%). This data is similar to 2000, except that teamwork had the highest percentage followed by communication. Participants report substantial improvement in their ability to get along with their peers.

*Outreach* – Youths continue to learn about the program.

## **Family Preservation**

Data has been collected from the Community Family Preservation Networks (CFPNs) agencies on a range of child safety outcome and evaluation measures, including those relevant to assessing family functioning, household conditions, and parenting behaviors. The baseline data by the County has addressed child placement prevention. This data has been used to advocate for expanding the Family Preservation Program.

- F. Evaluation Processes: Describe progress towards program and service evaluation, including the varying methods that may be used for evaluation such as client satisfaction surveys and on-site reviews. In addition, include any key results that have been collected from evaluation processes. Provide all existing data analysis and evaluation reports.**

### **Family Support**

The Family Support Evaluation tool is a client satisfaction survey. The conclusions that can be drawn are limited by the cross-sectional design of the evaluation. This cross-sectional approach only permits a descriptive analysis of the current year results and comparison to the previous year.

The instrument includes a core set of demographics and satisfaction questions as well as questions in the five program areas. The demographic questions differ slightly between the adult and youth. Some of the existing questions (from previous evaluation) were changed to make the questions more sensitive to the needs of the agencies. For example, the list of choices in the race/ethnicity question was significantly expanded to include numerous categories and the employment question was changed to include categories for seasonal work and employment in the home. While there were changes, special effort was made to ensure that the instrument collected data, which was consistent with the measurable objectives.

Collaboratives receive a separate copy of the tables and charts, which relates to individual program concerns and needs.

### **Family Preservation**

- G. Service Category Allocation: List the percentage of funding allocated for each of the four service categories. Where Family Preservation and Family Support services are provided to reunifying and adoptive families, including for example, costs for outreach and education, break out these amounts and include them in the total allocation for time-limited family reunification and adoptions promotion and support.**

Previous reauthorization enabled Los Angeles County to continue its original funding formula. The slight ten percent (10%) decrease in the allocation to Family Support in order to fund evaluations for both programs remains status quo. Family Preservation has continued to receive twenty-five percent (25%) of the funding.

There was no allocation for Adoptions and Family Reunification, as these programs are fully funded through other sources. Nonetheless, our Family Preservation Program does address Family Reunification and has always provided both adoptive services and post adoptive services through its state-funding source. This occurs by providing services to Family Reunification cases ninety days prior to the child's return home, thus



expediting the reunification process. Adoptive families are referred to Family Preservation Program when services are needed to save a placement.

Service Category	Allocation	Target Allocation
	Percentage	Percentage for
	For Federal Fiscal	Federal Fiscal Year
	Year	Year
	2002-03	2003-04 & 04-05
Family Preservation	25%	20%
Family Support	75%	20%
Adoptive Promotion and Support	0	20%
Time-Limited Family Reunification	0	20%

**H. Linkages: Describe the linkages developed between and among the services under these four categories and other service systems. Of particular interest are any linkages with CalWORKs, substance abuse and mental health treatment systems.**

### **Family Support**

The Family Support broad-based linkages to other services systems continue. The program includes several hundred subcontractors and community partners of all kinds. Of the twenty-six contracted agencies, twenty provide extensive youth enrichment activities and have close enough linkages with nearby school districts to offer programs at the school. Agencies offering services in the area of employment have direct linkages with large corporation who make employment opportunities available to program participants. Extensive linkages with the eighty-eight cities in Los Angeles County have been developed, often enabling the agency to purchase, at a reduce rate, such city program as arts and crafts, sports programs, health focused programs and other self enrichment activities on behalf of family Support participants. As Family Support has developed in Los Angeles County it is, in its essence, entirely a linkage program.

### **Family Preservation**

In efforts to ensure a true collaboration, Family Preservation services are provided by three county departments, Probation, Mental Health, and Department of Children and Family Services.

The Family Preservation strategy of community engagement has organized more than 400 community organizations into Community Family Preservation Networks consisting of schools, churches, boys & girls clubs, child development centers, substance abuse programs, child welfare and mental health centers. These networks cover the entire County.

**The Family Preservation linkage services to clients include:**

Childcare  
Educational Services  
Health Care Services  
Housing Services  
Mental Health Services  
Regional Center Services  
Special Education

Developmental Services  
Employment/Training Services  
Healthy Start Support Services  
Income Support Services  
Physical and Developmental Services  
Respite Services  
Substance Abuse Treatment

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